

**Hunt County Woodturners
Board Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2024**

The meeting was held at Wesley United Methodist Church. A Zoom session was conducted by Howard Wellspring. A Zoom link was provided by Howard to all HCW members in advance.

Club members Attending in Person: Brian Livingston*, Alain Schwarz*, Mark Spencer*, Howard Wellspring*, Tom Nehl*, Burt Andrew*, Bill Belitz.

Club members Attending through Zoom: Brian Schrader*.

[Voting board members indicated *. A quorum of board members was in attendance.]

The Meeting was called to order at 5:40pm by HCW President, Brian Livingston.

Items of Business

- Board Meeting minutes from October 3, 2024:

Alain Schwarz made a motion to accept the revised minutes from the October 3, 2024, board meeting (as published on the website after initial board-member review and changes) with no further changes. The motion was seconded by Tom Nehl. Motion passed.

- Website/Technology (Howard Wellspring)

- Recent website metrics:
 - 51 members are now signed up for Members Only access to the website.
 - Website: 152 visits last 30 days, 90 unique. All were from the U.S.
- To provide improved audio for the Christmas party with existing equipment, Howard has determined that the club's microphone and speakers are incompatible (connectivity). Mark has a microphone and speaker that may work and will bring them to the next club meeting for Howard to test.
- Christmas party sign-ups (food and volunteers) are now open on the website. So far, a total of 17 members representing 39 attendees have signed up. Far fewer have signed up for the associated support activities. Brian L. will encourage participation/sign-up's next meeting, and Gene Wellspring will provide physical sign-up pages.
- An approximate 30-minute (looped, repeating) Christmas video presentation is being developed which will be displayed at the Christmas party, probably on one of the Club's monitors. Howard will check out the cost of renting a projector and screen or large monitor.
- Digital instrumental music will replace the music offered by Adobe Premiere. Howard will determine how best to do this, whether as part of Adobe or played separately.
- The ad requested by George (Specialty Lumber and Logging) and approved by the Board at our last meeting for publication has now been posted under the Resources drop-down. The drop-down features an abbreviated writeup which includes a link to further information. Other HCW members who would like to offer their products and services will be included in this section in the future.

- Financial (Mark Spencer) [Mark sent financials to the Board members on the day before the meeting.]

- Mark presented: 1) a Financial Statement for 2024 which included the 2024 budget and actuals for the months of January through October 31, 2024, and 2) the Check Register through October 31, 2024.
 - Overall club reserves, including deposits and petty cash, come to \$35,702.80.
 - October income was greater than expenses by \$31.05.
 - The only significant income posted in October came from the Club's monthly raffle.
 - The only expense posted in October consisted of storage building costs.
 - The October 31, 2024, check register balance was \$8,358.93.

- Mark noted that a significant number of pending payments (training and event hosting costs, church space payment, others) will be posted in November.
- Mark will begin work on the budget for 2025, for discussion and possible acceptance at the December Board meeting.
- For fairness and consistency, Howard noted the need for a published schedule of usual payments for club activities (e.g. training, event hosting). Mark will develop this schedule, which after Board review and approval will be posted in the Member's Only section of the website.
- Will start collecting dues for 2025 during the November meeting:
 - Dues income will be collected in a special account for posting in 2025.
 - Members may pay by check/cash or may request that Mark provide them with a Paypal invoice.
 - Individuals who sign up for membership in November (no charge for November) will be expected to pay their 2025 dues at that time.
 - As in the past, during the February meeting a drawing for dues reimbursement will be held for those who have paid their 2025 dues by end of the break at that meeting. One member will receive a free 2025 membership.
- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops (tentative):**
 - Upcoming planned and proposed club meeting demos:
 - Nov: Christmas ornaments, four designs (Sammy Thomason)
 - Dec: Christmas Party (no regular meeting)
 - Jan: Tool Sharpening (Tim White and Alain Schwarz)
 - *Feb: Easy Tools Demo (James Carter from Easy Tools) Note: Bill Belitz and Brian Schrader will explore and work out arrangements with James Carter for the demo and possible classes, both expected at \$250 per day.*
 - Open Shop location /class topics (8am – noon, with mini-class at 9)
 - Nov: Lee Craft / Mini-class: Offset Turning Chucks (Bill Belitz, Brian Schrader, Tom Nehl).
 - Dec: Christmas Party (no Open Shop)
 - *Jan: George Freeman*
 - *Feb: Joe Grimes*
 - *Mar: Tom and Stacy Nehl*
 - *Apr: Howard Wellspring*
 - *May: Brian Livingston*
 - *June: Bill Belitz*
 - *July: Donna Frazier*
 - *Aug: Brian Schrader*
- **Training Coordinator / Brian Schrader**
 - Discussed a cooperative program and training plan offered to us by DAW, which would consist of hiring woodturner Kirk DeHeer of Craft Supplies to do a demo and training for both clubs separately. Brian S. will continue to work with DAW to evaluate the training and consider costs (DeHeer typically charges \$500 to \$800 per day) and logistics before making a recommendation.
 - As a member of the SWAT Executive Committee, Brian S. attended a SWAT Board meeting in Ft. Worth on November 2 and offered updates:
 - The Committee is considering adjustment of stipends and comps offered to the participating clubs.
 - Brian S. noted that out of 27 participating clubs, only 7 to 10 serve as room hosts.
 - The group will be looking for a club to pick up raffle ticket management and sales.
 - Lead demonstrators have been selected, to include: Toni Street, Sally Ault, Mike Nish, Mike Mahoney, Matt Monaco, Jerry Bennett, Lyle Jamieson, and Nick Agar as an alternate.
 - The Regional demonstrator deadline for application is the end of November.

- Regarding Saturday's open shop mini-class, Brian S. noted that the featured Niles Joyner offset jig is being offered by Carl Jacobson to HCW members at a 10% discount through the Niles website (discount code TEXAS).
- **Miscellaneous Other Items of Business**
 - Christmas Party
 - Brian L. passed out an HCW Christmas Party 2024 Program for Board review, which outlines the program schedule and key member responsibilities for the event.
 - Pending approval by the Christmas Party Committee, coffee makers owned by Howard and Tom will be utilized.
 - Brian L. will collect and transport all Quarterly Challenge submissions (Christmas decorations) to the event, to be used as table decorations or silent auction items.
 - HCW's 2024 Woodturner of the Year (candidate previously selected and discussed, but finalized this meeting) will be recognized and awarded a \$75. gift card.
 - Elected Officer Positions for 2025:
 - Nominees will be presented to the membership during the November meeting by Alain Schwarz. Any final nominations will be accepted from the floor at that time. After consideration and resolution of any alternates, the membership will vote to approve.
 - Note: Except for VP, all current Board members have expressed willingness to continue in their current positions. Bill Belitz will be the Board's recommended nominee for VP.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21pm.